

507 South Main
Dickinson, ND 58601
701-483-4000
Fax 701-483-0001
1-888-225-5282
www.ctctel.com



VIA ECFS

February 28, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554
Attn: Wireline Competition Bureau

*Consolidated
Telcom*

**Re: WC Docket No. 10-90
Rural Broadband Experiment Expression of Interest – Rate-of-Return
Areas
CONSOLIDATED TELCOM**

*Consolidated
Enterprises, Inc.*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

*Consolidated
Communications
Corporation*

Consolidated Telcom hereby expresses interest in participating in the Commission's rural broadband experiments to provide robust, scalable high-speed broadband to unserved high-cost areas with additional Connect America funding.¹ Consolidated Telcom is a rate-of-return incumbent local exchange carrier serving rural areas of North Dakota, and proposes deployment as follows.

Proposed Service Area

Consolidated Telcom proposes to build out broadband to 194 unserved premises within the regulated service territory. The areas to be constructed are as follows:

1. Ladd Exchange – Bowman County North Dakota, Harding County South Dakota
2. South Rhame Exchange – Bowman County North Dakota, Harding County South Dakota
3. Grassy Butte Exchange, McKenzie County North Dakota, Billings County North Dakota, Dunn County North Dakota.

Proposed Broadband Service

Voice, Video and Broadband services with broadband transmission speeds of 100 mbps downstream/50mbps upstream provided over Fiber to the Home (FTTH).

¹ See *Technology Transitions et al.*, GN Docket No. 13-5 et al., Order, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposal for Ongoing Data Initiative, FCC 14-5 (rel. Jan. 31, 2014).

*Consolidated
Cable Vision, Inc.*

*Consolidated
Communications
Networks, Inc.*

Funding

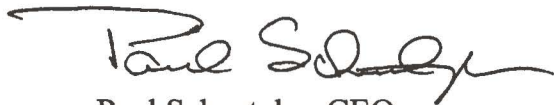
Consolidated Telcom estimates construction costs to be a total of \$9,920,884.

Consolidated Telcom requests \$9,920,884 in funding from Connect America Funds in one-time funding.

Consolidated Telcom expects service to be offered to all unserved customers within 12 months after construction starts.

Consolidated Telcom appreciates the opportunity to provide this non-binding expression of interest. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Schuetzler", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Schuetzler, CEO
Consolidated Telcom